



San Diego City Attorney **MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE**

NEWS RELEASE

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RESPONSE FROM STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ONLY NOW SEES THE LIGHT OF DAY

City Council Sought Legal Opinion Regarding City Attorney's Charter Authority

San Diego, CA—The California State Attorney General's Office (AG) has refused to weigh in on restricting the City Attorney's authority to file lawsuits. The communication came to light after the City Attorney's Office followed-up on the matter directly with the local offices of the AG and Assemblymember George A. Plescia.

The legal opinion was sought by Assemblymember Plescia in August on behalf of City Councilmember Jim Madaffer. The AG responded on August 30, 2007, and Plescia forwarded the communication to Madaffer on September 27, 2007.

"It is disturbing that the response from the AG's Office appears to have been concealed from the public by certain Council Offices even though variations of this issue have arisen numerous times since," said City Attorney Michael Aguirre.

Plescia requested that the AG offer an opinion after the San Diego City Council voted on July 30, 2007 "to request your analysis of San Diego City Attorney Michael Aguirre's memorandum of law regarding the 'Legality of Proposal to Require the City Attorney to Obtain City Council Approve Before Filing Cases,' dated July 20, 2007."

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